

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

GRACE, *et al.*

Plaintiffs,

v.

MATTHEW G. WHITAKER, in his
Official capacity as Acting Attorney
General of the United States, *et al.*,

Defendants.

Civil Action No. 1:18-cv-01853-EGS

DEFENDANTS' STATUS UPDATE

JOSEPH H. HUNT
Assistant Attorney General

WILLIAM C. PEACHY
Director

EREZ REUVENI
Assistant Director

CHRISTINA P. GREER
Trial Attorney
Office of Immigration Litigation
U.S. Department of Justice, Civil Division
450 5th Street NW
Washington, DC 20001
Tel. (202) 598-8770
Christina.P.Greer@usdoj.gov

JOSEPH DARROW
JOSHUA S. PRESS
Trial Attorneys

Dated: January 4, 2019

Attorneys for Defendants

DEFENDANTS' STATUS UPDATE

Defendants respectfully submit this status update, consistent with the Court's order that Defendants "file a status report detailing the steps they have taken to comply with" paragraph 5 of permanent injunction order by January 4, 2019. December 28, 2018 Minute Order.

Since the Court's order, counsel for Plaintiffs and Defendants have continued to confer by phone and email to work out the logistics of returning the removed Plaintiffs to the United States. Officers for Immigration and Customs Enforcement ("ICE") have reached out to the points of contact provided for each removed Plaintiff to establish lines of communication that will be used to communicate timing and logistics to individual Plaintiffs. Defendants have also determined that the removed Plaintiffs will return to the United States by way of repatriation flights by ICE Air when those flights return to the United States from Honduras and El Salvador. Defendants expect to facilitate their return within two weeks of today. Plaintiffs' counsel agree to this method of return and proposed timeline.

Counsel for both parties continue to discuss additional details concerning the processing of the removed Plaintiffs once they are returned to U.S. soil. Defendants will provide an additional status update to the Court regarding those discussions by Friday, January 11, 2019.

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Respectfully submitted,

JOSEPH H. HUNT
Assistant Attorney General

WILLIAM C. PEACHY
Director

EREZ REUVENI
Assistant Director

By: /s/ Christina P. Greer
CHRISTINA P. GREER
Trial Attorney
Office of Immigration Litigation
U.S. Department of Justice, Civil Division
450 5th Street NW
Washington, DC 20001
Tel. (202) 598-8770
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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on January 4, 2019, I electronically filed the foregoing document with the Clerk of the Court for the United States District Court for the District of Columbia by using the CM/ECF system. Counsel in the case are registered CM/ECF users and service will be accomplished by the CM/ECF system.

By: /s/ Christina P. Greer
CHRISTINA P. GREER
Trial Attorney
United States Department of Justice
Civil Division